Hurricane Safety Tips

**TERMS TO KNOW:**

**Hurricane Watch:**

Hurricane conditions are a real possibility for an area

**Hurricane Warning:**

Hurricane is expected within 24 hours. BEGIN PRECAUTIONARY ACTION AT ONCE

**ACT NOW TO BE PREPARED:**

1. Develop a family plan for survival and property protection.
2. If your residence is in a potential flood or storm surge zone, be prepared to evacuate when officials recommend it.
3. Make arrangements now for the elderly and others with special needs, such as those who depend on electrical life support.
4. Identify a friend or family member from a non-threatened area, whom you will keep informed about your family plans.
5. Plan what you will do with your pet.
6. Inventory personal property; safely secure all records and valuable documents in a watertight place.
7. Have materials available to protect your doors and windows.
8. Have emergency cash or traveler’s checks saved.
9. If your job requires you to work during a storm, make sure now that at least one adult will be with the children, the elderly or those with special needs in your family.
10. Put together a family hurricane evacuation kit.

**HURRICANE WARNING:**

1. Listen for weather updates and stay informed.
2. Keep a portable radio and flashlight on hand with fresh batteries.
3. Re-check all emergency supplies and equipment.
4. Clean your yard of all loose objects.
5. Secure your boat.
6. Store drinking water in clean containers.
7. Shutter, board, or tape all windows.
8. Plan a flood-free evacuation route and know where to go.
9. If ordered to evacuate:
   1. COMPLY IMMEDIATELY AND TAKE YOUR HURRICANE EVACUATION KIT
   2. Let your friends and family know where you are going.

**NO SMOKING, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, WEAPONS OR PETS (Pet Friendly Shelters may be available on an as needed basis) ARE ALLOWED IN PUBLIC SHELTERS.**

**Hurricane Evacuation Kit**

Keep your kit ready to go within hours. Include battery operated radio and flashlight, plus the following:

* First Aid Kit
* Two-week supply of medicine
* Blankets or sleeping bags
* Extra clothing, infant necessities
* Personal items, including books and toys
* Important papers (valid ID)
* Checkbook, cash, credit cards, ATM cards

**After the storm:**

DO NOT ENTER EVACUATED AREAS UNTIL LOCAL OFFICIALS HAVE ISSUED AN ALL CLEAR.

1. Stay away from disaster areas. Do not sightsee!
2. Obey all curfews and emergency orders, which are issued.
3. If you must drive, use caution. Be aware of road and bridge washouts and storm debris on roadways.
4. Advise interested parties that you are safe.
5. Use caution when using food from your refrigerator or ice chest. Check for spoilage
6. Avoid all downed power lines. Assume that all have live electricity.
7. Take extra precautions to prevent fire. Lowered pressure in water mains may make firefighting extremely difficult.
8. Have your electric, gas, and water connections check before turning them back on.
9. Use your emergency supply of boiled water until there is official word that water is safe.